Subject: Questions about the black Berkey elements
Date: Monday, September 20, 2021 at 3:51:01 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Robert Beaty
To: sean.s@berkeybynmcl.com, mel.c

Hello!

My name is Robert Beaty, and I am a customer of y'all's for about 7 years now. A while ago, I was emailing David Shepard with questions regarding Berkey filtering systems, but did not receive any reply from him for a while. After making several attempts, I did receive a reply from his email address, but it said that he was no longer with NMC, and it gave me Sean's email address. I have Mel's email address from a trial I did with the Berkey Lookout bottle. The text of the original email I sent to Dave is below. I am wondering if y'all can help me answer these questions:

"I received my Lookout Bottle last month, and I just sent my review/first impressions to Mel. Thank you again for letting me have and try out the bottle! I did share some feedback and questions with Mel, but overall, I like it!

I also want to ask you if you are aware of a Wirecutter review of Berkey filters? I stumbled upon it this week, and I researched and analyzed their claims and points. If you look at the comments section, mine is written under name "RB," and you can read my thoughts there. I critiqued several of their claims and methods, but I thought they did bring up a couple of good points, which I want to ask you about:

1. Why did NMC not respond to Wirecutter's requests for communication/comment? As a consumer, I'll let you know, it has a "Hmmm…are they trying to hide something?" effect when a company does not respond to journalist inquiries.

2. They emphasize the importance of NSF 53 certification. I have read NMC's post about NSF certifications being too expensive, and I agree. However, it would greatly build confidence in Berkey filters, and help to undo some tarnishing that Wirecutter has done to the Berkey name, if NMC maintained a couple of NSF 53 certs, like Lead and VOC Surrogates, for example.

3. Even if NMC chose not to have any NSF 53 certs, I think it's necessary for the number of gallons filtered to be shown in the test results that NMC has posted on its knowledge base site. It would also be very, very helpful to show how filter effectiveness decreases as number of gallons filtered increases, show it in a chart/graph.

4. I'm confused by the Fluoride and Arsenic results in Envirotek's 2014 results. It says that the Black Berkey element was tested, and that Arsenic and Fluoride were reduced by at least 99.9%. How could that be if the PF-2 filters were not attached? The test says it was for the black elements, not the PF-2."

Thank you both for your time and your work!

-Robert

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"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost."
~Paul of Tarsus (1 Timothy 1.15)